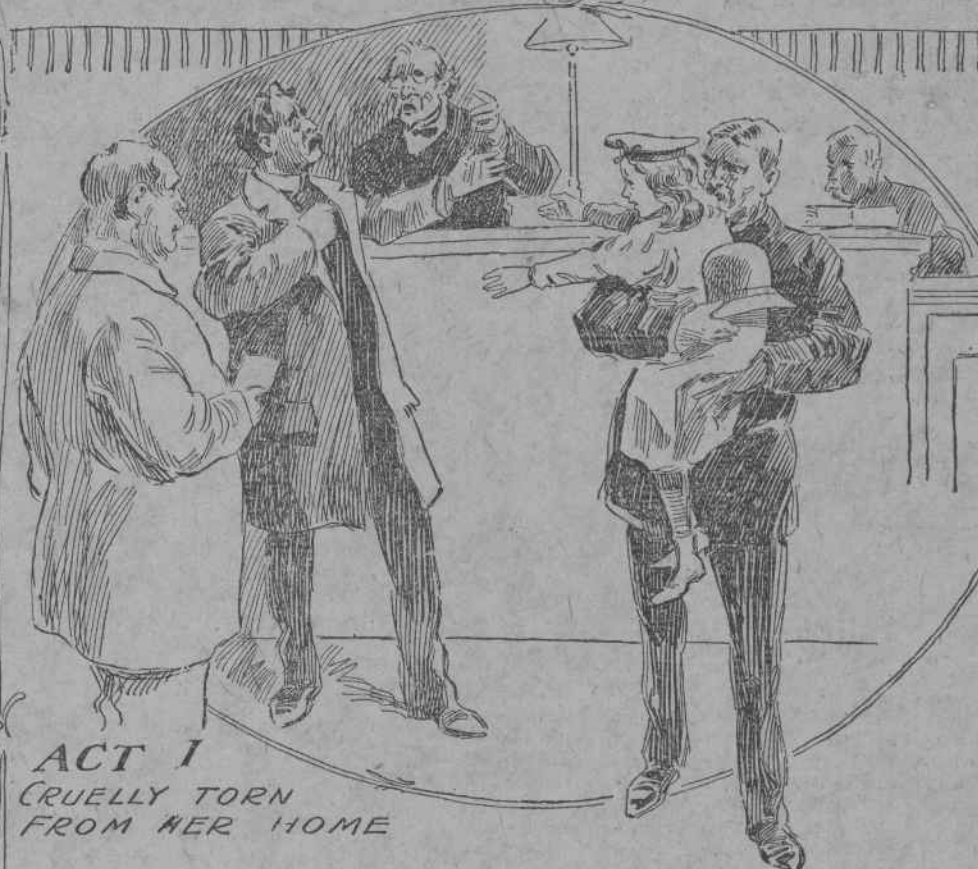


A PATHETIC DRAMA IN REAL NEW YORK LIFE



EIGHT-YEAR OLD VIOLET MONTGOMERY

ACT I
CRUELLY TORN
FROM HER HOMEACT II
RESTORED
TO HER FATHER

LOVE FOR VIOLET RECONCILED THEM

The Child's Mother and Father, Fearing She Would Be Torn from Them, Forgot Their Quarrels and Their Jealousies.

This truthful narrative will touch all mothers and fathers who have good in them. That is the reason it is told here, plainly, without adornment. There is a moral to it: "Love one another, if only for your children's sake."

When a daughter came into the world to bless Robert Montgomery, he named her Violet. She was sweet and fragile. That daughter, Violet, is eight years old now. She is a charming child, a lovable child, a loving child. She dearly loves her father. Montgomery is an engineer. He does not earn much money. He and Violet and her brother, who is nineteen years old, live in a flat at No. 113 Lewis street. It is a very small flat; it's the best Montgomery can afford. It is about the size of the room in Commodore Gerry's fine house that the Commodore, most philanthropic of men, calls his "den."

The father of Violet married a factory girl, and he is old enough to be the father of his wife. In what is known as high life, the disparity of age between Montgomery and his wife often leads to the divorce courts. But divorce is a luxury. Montgomery and his wife could not afford it. They were unhappy. He thought she was frivolous. She knew he was jealous, and she knew, too, she was his true wife. Being poor, they simply separated. Mrs. Montgomery went home to her mother, who, being poor, too, lives in Fourth street, near Avenue B.

Wounded Through His Child.

Her mother loves the amiable Violet, and, well-knowing that her father loves her, too, determined to wound the father through Violet. Only a woman loving Violet would have thought of that. Which should create wonder why his Satanic Majesty does not manhandle in skirts, sometimes. On Thursday Montgomery was summoned to Essex Market Court, where sat that learned and merciful judge, Magistrate Mott. Violet was in court, too. So was her mother, who had brought father and daughter there. So was Agent Denbert, of the society that does so much good, the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, of which, as every one knows, Commodore Gerry is the president and beneficent spirit.

This, in effect, happened in court before the merciful Magistrate.

"You don't send this child to school," said Magistrate Mott. "But, your Honor," cried Montgomery, glancing toward Violet, who was weeping, "but, your Honor, there's no school for her to go to. I've tried. I've looked for a school, but there's no room in any of them. I can't remember all; one was the public school, at Lewis and Livingston streets, near where we live. Another was the school of the Children's Aid Society, in Lewis street. All the schools are full. What am I to do?"

Then the Gerry Society.

"I commit the child to the care of the Gerry Society," said the learned Magistrate.

Agent Denbert plucked at Violet's sleeve. She burst out crying.

"Don't take me away from my popper," she screamed.

"Don't take me away. I want to go with him."

She cried and sobbed until her tender frame was shaken by the violence of her grief. Her father looked at her helplessly; the child stretched her arms toward him.

"Your Honor," said Agent Denbert, "there's no doubt the Society had best care for this child until her father can place her in a school."

"Certainly, there is no doubt," answered Magistrate Mott. The Society will take care of this child, pending a determination of the matter," and his pen scratched his name on the paper that committed Violet to the Society's care.

Agent Denbert laid his hand on the girl's arm. Her tears flowed afresh.

"O, popper, popper!" she shrieked, "don't let them take me away. I want to go home with you!"

Truant Officer to the Rescue.

A child's grief is the most pitiful thing the sun shines on.

While Violet was struggling to escape from Denbert's grasp Truant Officer O'Dell presented himself to Magistrate Mott. It must be understood that a new law has created agents whose duty it is to prevent truancy to compel the education of children.

Does a boy "play hooky"? The truant officer will catch him if he doesn't watch out. Does an ignorant father keep his child away from the public schools that the little one may toil or prowl the streets? It is the truant officer's duty to bring that father into court, to force him to send his child to school that the youngster may learn his reading, writing and arithmetic. The law is directed against brutality and ignorance. It's a fine law. Truant Agent O'Dell well illustrated its purpose when he sought to restore to her father Violet, for

city of Mrs. J. H. Wright, Mrs. Cyrus H. McCormick, widow of millionaire reaper maker; Mrs. McGraw, Robert E. Perkins, D. T. Rathbun, Charles G. Sloan and others. Among those named as favoring the plan was one from James A. Deering. The Comptroller, knowing Mr. Deering was Mrs. Wright's attorney, and was opposed to the Webster plan, asked to see the letter.

"Why," he exclaimed, "Mr. Deering only asks permission to copy a map. He is named as in favor; he is against."

Deputy Wilds, evidently embarrassed, explained: "I hope the Board does not think I intentionally misrepresented the matter. I signed Mr. Webster's report without reading the letters."

"How did you come in possession of these letters, Mr. Webster?" Mr. Fitch asked.

"As property owners came to inspect the plans I asked for an expression of opinion, for or against."

Mr. Thayer then addressed the Board and twitted Engineer Webster with "soliciting opinions" to bolster influence.

Pennsylvania Railroad. announces that they will sell excursion tickets to Washington and return, account inauguration, at a rate of \$8 for the round trip. Tickets will be on sale March 1, 2, 3 and 4, good to return March 4 to 6 inclusive. Adv.

JUMPED ON MR. WEBSTER.

Engineer of Public Works Charged With Deceit at a Meeting of the Street Opening Board.

At a meeting of the Board of Street Opening yesterday, Comptroller Fitch intimated that Engineer Webster, of the Public Works, had tried to deceive the Board in laying out Haven avenue, at Fort Washington. A little later P. A. Thayer referred to the "mathematical obstinacy of Mr. Webster."

"You have no right to mention my name here," replied the engineer, angrily. "I am merely a servant of the Department of Public Works."

"I have a right to mention your name, because you have assumed absolute control, arbitrary control, of the map making, which is a vast injury to my clients," replied Thayer.

The row began by the presentation of a number of letters by Deputy Commissioner of Public Works Wilds for and against the cutting of Haven avenue through the prop-

whom there was no place in school.

"If your Honor will permit Montgomery to keep his daughter," said O'Dell, "I will guarantee to find a school that will take her in a day or two."

"I have disposed of this case," said the learned Magistrate. "But, your Honor," O'Dell protested, "this man takes care of his daughter. She is fond of him."

"Stand aside, sir."

O'Dell stared at the Magistrate. He thought he had been misunderstood.

"I am an officer of the Board of Education," said the truant officer, who would be mighty quick to punish a cruel parent—father or mother.

"I can't help that," retorted the Magistrate. "This girl is committed to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children."

Mother's Heart Is Touched.

To prevent cruelty by the father, who adored her, Violet was to be plucked from him. There is, really, one reason why his Satanic Majesty never appears in skirts. He knows not love. When a woman loves, when a mother loves, she forgets everything but that love, jealousy, her desire for revenge, everything.

Mrs. Montgomery forgot she had been writing letters to the Gerry Society, to the Board of Education; forgot she was separated from her husband; forgot his groundless jealousy. She saw only Denbert leading away Violet.

"Your Honor," she exclaimed, hurrying to the bench. "I didn't want it to go as far as this. Don't take her away from him. He's a good father to her. He's kind."

The door of an anteroom closed on Denbert and Violet. Montgomery covered his face with his hands. From behind the door came the half-muffled sound of a child's cries. That night Violet slept in the rooms of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children. And the Society's kindness in taking her from her father almost broke her little heart.

Agent Denbert again took Violet to the police court yesterday. Denbert has an office in an anteroom of the court, and when he and Violet entered there the girl saw her father. She ran to him, her arms outstretched.

Met in the Court Room.

"Popper!" she exclaimed. Montgomery threw his arms around her and hugged her, and, hugging her, kissed her on the forehead and on her curls and on her lips and, to tell the whole truth, on her ear. For there was nothing theistic about that embrace. Every now and then such a scene is acted on the stage, and then the father rolls his eyes toward heaven, really sees a roof full of cobwebs, and exclaims, dramatically, "The child!" Montgomery did nothing of that sort, and it's a great pity some actors were not there to study. Impelled by his natural love for his little daughter, the rough engineer threw his arms around her and gave her a good warm hug. Her arms reached about half way around him, but she caught hold of his shabby coat and held on by her fingers until, when she let go, the blood rushed back into them and crimsoned their tips. Nor did she exclaim "Father," as some children used to do on the stage. She said "Popper," that was all, "Popper"—the dearest sound that ever greeted man's ears.

Reunited at Last.

And when Montgomery had hugged her to his heart's content he released her and stood erect. He turned Violet around and

said, "There's your mother, Vi." And there her mother was, smiling, although her eyelids were very red and her under lip, which she held tight against her upper lip, was trembling.

"Vi," said the mother. The child ran to her and threw her arms around her waist, which she could clasp now, while Montgomery watched, smiling. Mother and daughter kissed each other. Then the three sat down on a bench, Violet in the middle, and talked to each other.

When the case was called these three walked into the court room and stood before Magistrate Mott, the Just.

"Montgomery," said the Magistrate, "You are not a fit man to take charge of this child. You used the most abominable language concerning your wife yesterday. You charged her with being an improper person."

"Why, your Honor must have misunderstood me," answered Montgomery, amazed. "I never spoke in such a manner of my wife."

The Magistrate maintained his assertion, however. Finally he gave Violet into her mother's charge. What did it matter? Father and mother were one again. The love of Violet, her tears, the dread of losing her had reconciled them. Violet took each by the hand, and thus they left the court room, happy.

FANATIC'S END THE GALLOWES.

Hanging of Fred Bohme for Killing Wife and Child Over Religion.

McLeansboro, Ill., Dec. 4.—Fred Bohme, who murdered his wife and child on Easter Sunday, was executed here to-day. The trap was sprung at 12:30, and his neck was broken. He made no statement on the scaffold.

One Sunday morning last August Bohme and his wife quarrelled over religion. After horribly beating her with an axe, Bohme threw an old piece of carpet over his wife's body, and on top of that piled a load of corn fodder. He then took his little son, aged about three years, and with a rope hanged him to a nail in the old stable.

Bohme was captured the next day about twenty miles from his home. He made no denial of his guilt, and when asked why he did it, pointed to his head and said, "By something there told him to do it. By many persons Bohme was regarded as a monomaniac on the subject of religion."

CANE PRESENTED TO DR. C. M. DEPEW.

Not That He Needs a Staff, but Because Revolution's Sons Love Him!

Daughters, Too, Participate in a Function Which Crowds Windsor Hotel.

Relics of Three Events in Washington's Career Joined by Jewellers for This Gift.

GRACEFUL PRESENTATION SPEECH.

Four Thousand Invited to Witness the Ceremony and Fully Two Thousand Were There to Applaud Dr. Depew's Response.

It was very late last night before the Empire State Society of the Sons of the American Revolution and the Daughters of the American Revolution reached the point in the programme for which they were assembled at the Windsor Hotel. These sons and daughters of the days when there were minute guns and no after-dinner speeches assembled to stand at the back of Rev. Abbott E. Kittredge, when he presented, on their behalf, to their beloved president, Dr. Chauncey M. Depew, a cane "composed of original wood from Fort Duquesne, Fort Pitt and France's bayonet, representing the complete span of Washington's military career."

It was 113 years ago yesterday that Washington said farewell to his officers at Fraunce's Tavern, New York City, before going to Annapolis to surrender his commission as Commander-in-Chief. The war for independence was over and the time had come for graceful compliments. None of those which showered upon the successful General nor of those pompous returns that may have made him the lightest tone that ran through Dr. Kittredge's pretty sentences, which set a standard that called for all the grace of speech that Dr. Depew could master in return.

Nearly two thousand invitations were sent out. Those to the Sons included the ladies of their families, and those to the Daughters their husbands or escorts. That made at least 4,000 persons invited. Fully two thousand responded.

The cane includes three parts, and was made by Tiffany. There is black oak from Fort Duquesne, which Washington finished after his assignment to the command of the forks of the Ohio—practically the beginning of his military career. There is black walnut from Fort Pitt, the rebuilt fortification from which the black oak was brought, and which got its later name after Washington drove out the French in 1758 and Colonel Bouquet reconstructed it.

The staff of the cane is a bit of Fraunce's Tavern wood.

Dr. Depew told the sons and daughters in his flowing phrases how not only the war spirit had got into that cane, but how the staff, with a few recollections of tavern days which belonged to the golden era of peace. He spoke his gratitude so charmingly that a crowd of the many who heard failed to applaud.

FITCH WANTS NAMES GIVEN.

A Little Matter of Patronage in the Street Opening Board.

The appointment of appraisal commissioners by the Supreme Court to conduct property for street openings has not been quite satisfactory recently to the Street Opening Commissioners. Some of the men proposed by the Corporation counsel and others have not been given patronage.

Yesterday Comptroller Fitch requested that hereafter, when Mr. Scott notifies the board of the court's decision to name commissions of estimate and appraisal, that the names of the appointees be given. He intimated that, as the Board initiated all the business, it ought to know to whom the patronage was given. The fee to some of these commissions often reach a large sum.

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HUNGRY, HE ATE HIS HAT.

Poor, Starving Fellow, Scarcely Able to Talk, Caught Feeding Upon His Felt Alpine.

A gaunt and ragged man stood at the corner of First avenue and Twenty-first street at 11 o'clock yesterday forenoon with his eyes fixed on the sidewalk. Policeman McGough approached, and saw the man take a bite out of the crown of his hat. The man chewed it with apparent relish, and the policeman touched him on the shoulder. The man looked up, with a furtive, frightful glance.

"Hungry?" he said, and with that he took another bite, chewed and swallowed it.

The officer led him to the East Twenty-second Street Station, where he muttered incoherently, and the sergeant ordered him taken to Bellevue Hospital. There he was examined, and finally said, in broken English, that his name was Samuel Younger, and that he had no home. When asked if he had friends, he shook his head and pointed to his stomach.

He was carefully fed with a little milk, which he swallowed with the greatest eagerness, and later in the day was able to take some solid food. How long he had been without food or where he had lived he was not able to tell. He was evidently insane, but it seemed probable that hardship and privation made him so.

When asked where he was born he muttered, "Hungary," and so he was entered on the records as a Hungarian. It is probable that, when the officials entered his name as "Younger" and the